

Courtesy

Sam Kouchis

CHIVALRY! What's that? It originally had something to do with horses. The knights of old started it. It also has something to do with courtesy and politeness. Maybe the knights were polite to their horses. It's the only conclusion I can come to. Anyway, chivalry seems to have disappeared. If you are doubtful of what I say, stand by the main doors of the school some morning. A girl opens the door to the building, and, before she knows it, a half dozen boys push their way into the building while she stands holding the door. If a boy accidentally collides with a girl, all he does is give her a dirty look and walk away, unless, of course, she is good looking.

I can understand why boys will be less courteous to younger females. After all they are only girls, but little respect is shown to adults. A boy seldom expects himself to open a door for a teacher. It must be lack of courtesy, energy, or good grades. Just recently I saw a woman open the door of the store in which she works to give entrance to a fellow-employee carrying a large chair. Much to her anger and disgust two men walked in also while she held the door open. I, at least, thanked her.

When riding on a crowded bus from Chicago two weeks ago, I noticed a lady enter the bus carrying a baby. When nobody else rose, I offered the lady my seat. I believe she is still suffering from a case of shock.

Revolving doors are also courtesy detectors. The other day I observed a small boy as he started to enter a revolving door. Just as he stepped in, a large woman barged through from the other side, and caught the boy's foot. She was nice about the whole thing. She looked down at his bleeding foot and inquired whether or not he was hurt.

Good sportsmanship is also lacking in the gymnasium at basketball games. It is not unusual to see a boy charging recklessly down the floor, disrupting his own and the other students' games. This is altogether unnecessary and can be prevented with a little thought and consideration. While jumping for the rebound, some players actually hurl themselves upon their opponents. One of them ducked once and I got a bruise on my knee.

There is nothing more exasperating than to hear very loud "boos" and cheers. This not only denotes a person's lack of manners, but also his stupidity. Some teams even refuse to play certain other teams because of the loud yelling. I don't care if they do stop playing because I always get hoarse after each game.

Well, I must go now. I have to help some elderly lady's good looking daughter across the street.